

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It should be required that any station airing such items should both claim that the show is an opinion and air a contradicting piece to show the other opinion. This is clearly media tampering with the election.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what the corporate executives opine and less of what we need for our democracy. Items called "news" should reflect happenings in the world and not opinions. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.